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## **Justice Brown to Leave Supreme Court June 30; Procedures Clarified for High Court Actions**

San Francisco—Justice Janice Rogers Brown, Associate Justice of the California Supreme Court, informed Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger in a letter last Friday, June 17, that her final day on the state's high court will be Thursday, June 30, 2005.

Justice Brown, recently confirmed as a judge of the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, has served on the California Supreme Court since May 2, 1996. She previously was an associate justice of the Court of Appeal for the Third Appellate District starting in 1994.

Following Justice Brown's departure from the state Supreme Court, the high court will continue to perform its work with its remaining six regular members until a new justice is appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Commission on Judicial Appointments.

The Supreme Court may act in any case with the concurrence of four justices. In cases in which oral argument has already been heard, an opinion may be filed with less than a seven-member court so long as four justices concur in the result.

Any written opinions filed by the Supreme Court before June 30, 2005, will bear the name of Justice Brown as a participant. Any opinions filed after that date will not bear her name as a participant.

If additional oral arguments are heard before a new Supreme Court justice is appointed and confirmed, a Court of Appeal justice will be assigned temporarily to participate in each case, pursuant to the court's established rotational assignment policy.

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